

necked, *Erolia ruficollis*), and Curlew Sandpipers (*E. ferruginea*).

ONSLOW. 10th June.—1 Oriental Pratincole (*Glareola pratincola*), 6 Large Sand Dotterels, 6 Eastern Curlews, 10 Whimbrels.

BUSH BAY, NEAR CARNARVON. 12th June.—16 Bar-tailed Godwits, 1 Red-necked Stint, c. 20 Eastern Curlews, 5 Whimbrels, 10 Large Sand Dotterels.

13th June.—10 Red-necked Stints, 15 Grey-tailed Tattlers (resting on top of the mangroves at high tide), 12 Large Sand Dotterels.

14th June.—4 Bar-tailed Godwits, 1 Greenshank, 3 Grey-tailed Tattlers.

—P. R. COLSTON and C. J. O. HARRISON.  
British Museum (Natural History), London.

**White Ibis near Perth.**—During a visit to Lake Mariginup, a few miles south of Lake Pinjar on May 2, 1968, Mr Tom Spence and I were surprised to see four White Ibis (*Threskiornis molucca*) feeding in the shallows.

While under observation the birds were disturbed by a stockman riding past and flew to join a small party feeding on the far margin of the lake. A further search with binoculars revealed another solitary bird, indicating that at least 11 Ibis were present on the swamp.

White Ibis have been recorded in the South-West on several occasions, but as far as I am aware this party of 11 is one of the largest groups seen in the Metropolitan area. J. Long reported 12 birds at Wattle Grove in January and February 1962 (Serventy and Whittell, *Birds of Western Australia*, 1967).

—C. F. H. JENKINS, South Perth.

**An Early Record of the Crested Bellbird from the Swan River District.**—In his Swan River district bird list, W. B. Alexander (*Emu*, 20, 1921: 167) mentioned that there is a specimen of the Crested Bellbird (*Oreoica gutturalis*) which is labelled Perth, in the British Museum of Natural History, from the Gould Collection, but excluded the species from the list on the grounds that the specimen "was no doubt obtained inland or further north." In view of the recent observations of the Crested Bellbird at Beer-mullah (1954), Yancheep (1957), Lake Pinjar (1962), the Gnangara pine plantation (1960) and Upper Swan (see D. L. Serventy and H. M. Whittell, 1967, *The Birds of Western Australia*, 4th edn.) in the northern part of the Swan coastal plain, it is probable that the collecting locality on the specimen's label is correct.

—JULIAN FORD, Lynwood.

**Flight Speed of Common Bronzewing.**—Speed of flight, at least in short bursts, can be gauged in several species by pacing individuals in a motor vehicle along roads. In the case of the Common Bronzewing (*Phaps chalcoptera*) D. L. Serventy (*W. Aust. Nat.*, 1, 1947: 66) has recorded these pigeons overtaking his car when it was travelling at 40 miles per hour. E. H. Sedgwick (*ibid.*, 2, 1950: 144) estimated the speed of a Bronzewing at 30 miles per hour in a moderate beam wind when he was travelling in a train. That the species can fly appreciably in excess of 40 miles per hour was demonstrated when I was driving with Fauna Warden A. T. Pearce in a land-rover near Moodiarup on August 11, 1967. A Common Bronzewing overtook and passed us without any apparent effort when our speedometer was registering a steady 42 miles per hour.

—H. B. SHUGG, Fisheries and Fauna Department, Perth.